

Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in King George County, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

August 28, 2012 to September 25, 2012

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal activity to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:

DOD/U.S. Navy

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The U.S. Department of the Navy, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD) proposes to expand research, development, test and evaluation (RDT&E) activities within the Potomac River Test Range and Explosives Experimental Area complexes, the Mission Area, and special-use airspace at Naval Support Facility (NSF) Dahlgren in King George County. These activities include outdoor operations that require the use of ordnance (guns and explosives), electromagnetic energy, lasers, and chemical and biological simulates (non-toxic substances used to mimic dangerous agents). The purpose of the proposed action is to enable NSWCDD to meet current and future mission-related warfare and force protection requirements by providing RDT&E of surface ship combat systems, ordnance, lasers and directed energy systems, force-level warfare, and homeland and force protection. The Navy is considering three alternatives: the No Action Alternative, which addresses historical and current mission activities; Alternative 1 which addresses baseline activity levels plus known future requirements; and Alternative 2 (Preferred Alternative), which addresses current baseline requirements, known future requirements, and projected increases in the foreseeable future based on current trends. The Navy has submitted an Environmental Impact Statement that includes a Federal Consistency Determination under the Coastal Zone Management Act which finds the proposed action consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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